[XXXVIIth Year.] THE [No. 1814.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1781.

To the PRINTER.

THE following dialogue was put into my hands by a learned acquaintance, who said he translated it from a Greek manuscript he found amongst some loose papers in an old library. Whether the conversation really happened in the Elysian Fields, or whether it was the work of some mortal amongst us, neither he, nor myself, were able to determine. The country, and people alluded to in it, perhaps may be imaginary, but I rather think they had a real existence, and that their history by some accident or other has been destroyed. My reason for this opinion is, because there appears so strong a representation of genuine character in it, and so little of fancy. If it be true there will be some difficulty, if it be real, to account for its appearance here, but as this is a point I acknowledge myself incapable of solving, I must submit it entirely to the reader; with this remark only, that such things have heretofore made their appearance in our world, but how they got there, he will be better able perhaps to account for than your

CORRESPONDENT.

SOLON, LYCURGUS, and ÆSOP.

Solon. Pr'ythee Æsop where hast thou been this many a day? We have had such a dull time of it here since you left us, that a stranger wou'd rather suspect from our melancholy countenances, that this was the retreat of sorrow, than the region of happiness, and pleasure.

Lycurgus. Come unpack, unpack.—In the old way I suppose—upon some drollery I'll warrant you.

Æsop. 'Faith my old lads I have had a rare time of it, since I saw you. You politicians! you legislators! Why I have been to a country, where you daren't shew your beards. It is true old Greece made some fuss about you, and perhaps you did tolerably well for the mad-caps of Athens, and the formal dons of Sparta; but where I have been they think no more of you, and your divine institutions, as they are called, than they do of an old ballad, or the tale of a superannuated grannam. Why every mother's son of 'em is born a politician, and a legislator there; ay, I say, born a legislator. They go to it as naturally as a hound to the chace, or a goose to the water; ay, faith, and use as little reflection too. You shall see them sit down to make laws with as little thought, nay I don't know but with much less, than they do to a beef-steak or an apple-pudding. In our days it was thought necessary to prepare oneself by a course of study to go about that kind of business; but there's nothing of that sort there; no, nothing more is necessary than just sufficient instruction to enable them to read a newspaper, and to write their names; they are then qualified to enter the lists as orators, and legislators; and truly they make a striking figure in both ways.

Lycurgus. But pray let us know something more of this strange country. Where does it lie? and how did you get to it? I should like to be acquainted with some of their principles, and institutions, and by what means they accomplish such mighty matters with so much ease, and so naturally, as you term it.

Æsop. Their principles, and institutions! Why man you must not suppose, because you could not hang a peg without fix'd principles, that they are in the same hobble. Their principles are like their cloaks, they take off, or put on, as occasion requires, and are both regulated by similar circumstances. They have this great advantage, they are of such a cut that they never impede their progress, be it either with or against the wind; and are of so excellent a texture, that you may wear them, or throw them off, without any sensible inconvenience, in any weather. Now this is a refinement in principles, which your worships were entirely ignorant of, and by the bye is not easily to be accounted for. In this particular, I speak it with all due deference, lies the grand defect of your very wise institutions. Whatever object you had in view, it was sure to be hamper'd with some principle or other, and could not be brought about, according to your doctrine, but by means perfectly consonant to it. If you made a solemn promise in the face of the world, you held that you were obliged to comply with the terms of it, let the inconvenience of a compliance, or the advantages that might be derived from a violation of it, be ever so great. This was the occasion of many difficulties to you and your countrymen, but they are happily obviated by the people I am speaking of. They have brought that matter to such a pitch of perfection, that they can calculate to a fraction, how far they are bound to comply with their engagements; for this always, and very justly, depends upon a variety of circumstances, such as the times, place, their convenience, the persons to whom they are bound, and the like.

Lycurgus. I must really confess these are principles, I am totally unacquainted with. But come, give us some account of your journey. How did you get amongst these surprising people? and how did you contrive to get acquainted with their affairs?

Æsop. Why you must know, that falling in company with Mercury the last time he came down with a message from Jove to these parts, I ask'd him what was stirring in the upper regions? what was the latest news in those parts? and how matters went with our once brother mortals on the earth? His godship I fancy had taken a hearty sup of nectar before he set out from above, which made him very communicative. After telling me a great many strange matters, I am going, said he, before I return home, an errand to the new world, as it is called; where if you have a mind, you may be an eye-witness to some of the uncommon things, I have been relating to you. I took him at his word, so after finishing his business in this quarter we set out. He took to his wings, and I embracing his two buttocks with my arms, was safely convey'd to our journey's end.

Solon. By my troth a pretty easy mode of travelling. Well, now let us know what follow'd.

Æsop. Pr'ythee have a little patience; give me but time, and you shall have my whole budget; you know I am not much given to keep secrets. Well then, it was my very good fortune to take land at that critical period, when the grand assembly of lawmakers of a large state were just convened. Heavens what a sight! I think it was some prince or ambassador, who fancy'd when he saw the Roman senate, that he was in the presence of an assembly of gods. What wou'd he have said had he been in my place? he might have ransack'd heaven and earth in vain for a simile. You know I was once tolerably well acquainted with the world, and was not apt to be confounded tho' in the company of kings and princes. But I don't know how it happen'd; either the novelty of the matter, or the grandeur of the sight, affected my senses in so instantaneous, and surprising a manner, that tho' only a spiritual substance, therefore not so liable to those sensations as when in a carnal state, yet it was with the utmost difficulty I cou'd retain the use of my faculties; however by degrees I came to, and after a few hours was so well recover'd, that I was able to bear the sight without hazarding a relapse. I remember it was the boast of old Rome, that she borrow'd her dictators, and statesmen, from the plough. In this particular she is far outdone now. I'll warrant ye the odds are more than forty to one; such a happy change has taken place in the terestrial world! I cannot undertake to give you a circumstantial account of the characters, that composed this august body, now, nor of all the matters that were agitated amongst them whilst I was there. Tho' all were excellent in their kind, yet I cou'd perceive a difference; some were more craftily qualified than others, that is, were more highly impregnated with that rare spirit of nature, which so remarkably distinguishes this people from any I had ever beheld or heard of before. Athens may boast of her Demosthenes, Rome of her Cicero, but give me a ——— or a ———; nay I cou'd name you a score more such.

Lycurgus. What! Are orators so plenty then, that you count them by scores?

Æsop. Ay truly, providence has been very bountiful in that particular too. She has furnished them of all dimensions; as long winded or laconic as you please; indeed I much question whether your celebrated Spartans excelled some of them in this latter talent; the multum in parvo is truly descriptive of their ejaculations; and I was happily so placed, that I lost not a particle of these precious morsels. Being invisible to eyes of flesh from my spiritual nature, and not sensible to the touch of matter, I cou'd go where I pleased without being incommoded myself, or incommoding others; this gave me an excellent opportunity of noting all that passed. The first business, that was taken in hand after my arrival amongst them, was the choice of their first magistrate. It seems this act had been omitted on the day appointed by the constitution of the state; it therefore became a question whether it could be done at all afterwards, as the constitutional rule had not been observed; this occasioned a long and learned debate, in which the matter was handled with the utmost skill, and acuteness, particularly by the opposers of the measure. One amongst them, I remember, advanced many arguments that were uncommonly forcible, and curious, and proposed an expedient equally sagacious, and new, but all to no purpose, for the question was carried for the opposite opinion. The next thing was the choice of the grand executive council. Now I thought I shou'd be able to get some insight into the affairs of government; for as a heavy charge was brought against the members of the old council, I expected their proceedings would be overlook'd, and their administration publicly examined, but to my great disappointment, and surprise, I found the matter was dropp'd. I confess this stagger'd me not a little, and I had very nearly doubted the wisdom and virtue of this august body; but their former conduct recurring to my mind, and the distinguished character of the member, who moved the charge, but did not prosecute it, undoubtedly for very wise tho' unknown reasons, I became easily reconciled to the omission. The last affair of consequence I shall mention now, was the appointment of persons to represent the state in a grand council, composed of representatives from a number of other states, which with this formed one great republic. Now, said I to myself, shall I see some of the first characters this most extraordinary country produces; for as the peculiar situation of their affairs required the most able heads in the land, I consequently expected to see such named for the most difficult charge they had to confer. Accordingly the nomination began, and proceeded so rapidly, that I cou'd not help exclaiming to myself, "What a rare country is this, where they so readily find men capable of filling the most important employments, that can fall to the charge of human beings!" I contrived to get a sight of these distinguished characters, which instantly bringing to my remembrance the old adage, "Fronti nulla fides," I came away well assured of their profound abilities, and uncommon sagacity.

Solon. Truly, friend Æsop, you seem mightily wrapt up in this strange, new people; but methinks you have given us no instances yet of the profound abilities, and uncommon sagacity, you speak of in such rapturous terms.

Æsop. Nay, I don't know what you may call instances. I am satisfied I have mentioned only a few of their acts, which alone are sufficient to immortalize them; but if these won't content you, perhaps I may at some other opportunity relate some things to you, which will put the matter past a doubt. Their money, my old boy! there's their fort. In this single article, they have gone beyond the power of magic itself. No magician, or necromancer, with all his art, can equal them. Such is their power over a small piece of paper of about three inches square, that they can make it assume more shapes in a few hours, than old Proteus did in the whole course of his existence. It shall now be gold; now silver; nay both at the same instant. In a moment it shall cease to exist; with a dash of the pen it is revived. It is now more; now less; and yet always the same. This amazing power has been exercised with infinite advantage to the state; for by a single touch, and a few words, which have a high magical virtue in them, it becomes ten, twenty, thirty, forty times larger, and yet continues perfectly the same in matter and size; so that they can at a word encrease, or diminish it to suit every occasion, that may happen. This is a rare improvement in politics, and worth the whole art besides. It is true such sudden changes have occasioned some confusion at times, which will ever be the case in affairs of this nature; but the immense gains derived to the society from so valuable an art, richly compensate for any transitory evils, that may flow from the practice of it. Besides, as it is wisely ordained by Providence, that every evil shall work its own cure, by a gradual extinction of the ill principle it contains; so these disorders spend themselves by degrees, and, to make ample amends for the ills they have occasioned, terminate in giving existence to a being, unknown to the good folks of our days, called a *financier*. It is no easy matter to describe the character, and qualities of this being; though he arises out of confusion, yet he contains within himself every principle of order; he is a perfect counterpart to the occasion, that calls him to life. He is a thorough adept in the art of simplifying, and is so strongly addicted to the practice of it, that he never fails to instill into all his projects the genuine spirit of that quality; moreover,

nature has endowed him with so strong a scent, that if there be a hoard of gold in the land, he is sure to smell it out; and do but put it in his hands, he will promise you, nay and prove it too by invincible argument, that while it lasts, the nation shall never want credit, nor the treasury money. From these few circumstances you may form some judgment of the profound skill, and immense utility, of this character; but you must be satisfied at present with what I have told you, for I assure you I am not a little fatigued with my jaunt; Mercury being in a plaguy hurry, whirl'd me along at such a rate through the air, that I really feel my pericranium disorder'd.

Silvio. Why to lay the truth, I think it does appear to be somewhat out of order; but a little rest will make all well again; then, I hope, we shall catch you in a humour to give us the remainder of these extraordinary matters.

Sir, you will be pleased to publish the following remarks on Z's plan for a new money.

Annapolis, December 24, 1781.

AS the thoughts which the writer under the signature of Z has submitted to the public, appear to me to deserve its attention, I would offer a few remarks on the same subject.

I lay it down as a principle, that, either the appreciation or depreciation of our present paper currencies, will be unstable, precarious, and delusory, till we make a provision which we have not yet attempted; or, until we introduce a money on the basis proposed in last week's paper.

I have bestowed some thoughts on producing a quantity of specie competent to the *quarterly discharge of all interest upon paper money or loans*, and I find that it will take as much specie for this purpose, as would lay the foundation for a bank.

I have enquired into the sum of specie which will be necessary for our quota of the expences of the war, and our own governmental demands; and, I have discovered, that this sum would lay the foundation of a bank.

In either case then we must raise a sum in specie; so that the question is, shall we employ it in the establishment of a bank. I conclude in the affirmative; and I support the conclusion, upon the great advantages to be derived to the state from a bank; and, because, unless we can create a currency equivalent to specie, the following consequences may be expected.

1st. An insufficient medium for trade and alienations will check industry, in proportion as it is defective. I believe no one will say, the medium now employed is sufficient for the trade of Maryland.

2dly. An insufficient medium for trade and alienations, will occasion a diminution in the consumption of our imports, and a proportional decrease in the demand for wheat, flour, tobacco, &c.

3dly. The demand for these staples diminishing, the value of land will also diminish.

4thly. There being no proportional increase of income, with the increase of taxes, the farmer, the planter, the merchant, and the artisan, will find their property gradually melted down in taxes.

5thly. If it is a just observation that specific taxes do not bring into the treasury more than one half their valuation; and should our allotment for the ensuing year be for £. 300,000, we shall be obliged to raise specifics for 1782 to the amount of £.450,000 (including the deficiency of 1781). But in order to bring this sum into the treasury it will be necessary to load the people with a specific tax for the year 1782 equal to £. 900,000.

These are among the evils of a defective medium, or a medium not the exact representative of gold and silver.

These are among the evils of a tax in kind, from which we should use our best endeavours to be delivered.

Now as we cannot answer the requisitions of congress with specie; as we cannot render our taxes in kind applicable to the purposes of government, before their conversion into specie; and, as we cannot remove the evils of a specific tax, but by the introduction of a money which may obtain the full confidence of the people, and, which may itself be taxed; I would think this specie could not be better employed than in the establishment of a state bank. Without the intervention of legerdemain this bank instantly answers the most essential objects of government. It gives us a paper that will circulate; that will not be locked up for its interest; that will pay the interest of all our certificates, raise soldiers, and remove every interior want of the state.

It is only to cavil if we say this plan interferes with the general bank. Let us examine the matter and we will find it forwarding its operations. I am convinced the whole trade of the union cannot be provided with a medium from the general bank; and that other banks at convenient distances will be found supplementary. Either these must be established, or the great bank must erect offices in every state where its notes may be realised. It is the opinion of a writer of the first distinction in these matters, that, in addition to the national bank of England, very considerable advantages would arise from the establishment of subaltern ones throughout the kingdom.

But it is the true policy of Maryland to institute a bank of her own. I never will see her, and not complain, give up a privilege, or a right to the sovereign power of the confederacy, which must lessen her own welfare without adding to that of the whole. Should Maryland rely on the Philadelphia bank, she must either be drained of her specie, or she must pledge her property for the bills she receives. In this case (excepting where individuals become subscribers) we shall pay interest to Philadelphia for *our own money*. I am persuaded that congress had not fully considered this subject when they recommended a monopoly which was to operate only in favour of a particular state or description of men.

Taking it therefore for granted, that it is our real policy to establish a bank, I would beg leave to suggest one of its operations with the government.

I will suppose the several collectors at stated periods, say four times a year, while the taxes continue to be paid in specifics, to make their returns to the commissary of their collections, detailing the quantity, kind, and place of deposit; the commissary to make an entry of the return, and transmit the return to the treasury; the treasurer to make a similar entry, and send the return to one of the council, whose particular duty it should be to superintend this part of the administration. If the assembly has anticipated any of its taxes, by borrowing from the bank, the superintending counsellor will give the bank an order for such proportion of the taxes, as may be adequate to the discharge of the debt; or he may direct the commissary to dispose of them and deposit the result in the treasury from whence it may be transferred to the bank.

It is in order to give greater facility to these operations that I would restrict their superintendance to a single counsellor, who should lay, once a year, before the general assembly an account of our revenue and disbursements; proposing at the same time, such alterations as might appear calculated to suppress mismanagements, or to improve the revenue. I give this power to one of the council, because he should be responsible for this department, and because a thorough access to, and knowledge of, all the several transactions of the executive will be necessary for his information; and therefore his powers should be interwoven with those of the governor and council.

This would throw our revenue into system. The assembly would then meet to read the accounts of the state, which would contain an exact register of her debts, the proceedings of her collectors, her commissary, and all those officers concerned in the receipt or disposal of her taxes. Every man would then be a judge of what was to be done for the next year, and the great business of the session would become *an affair of a few days*.

In these remarks I suppose my readers men of sense, and acquainted with the nature of banks. But if they should not have attended to their effects upon a nation, I would request them to consider the present state of Scotland, with what it was before the establishment of banks. The author I have already quoted, says "I can point out their utility in no way so striking as to recal to mind the surprising effects of Mr. Law's bank established in France, at a time when there was neither *money or credit in the kingdom*. The superior genius of that man produced in two years time the most surprising effects imaginable; he revived industry; he established confidence; and shewed to the world that while the landed property of a nation is in the hands of the inhabitants; and while the lower classes are willing to be industrious, *money never can be wanting*. A.

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* *Sir James Steuart.*

December 19, 1781.

THIS is to give notice to all whom it may concern, that the property of James Browne, jun. deceased, in the house of Cunninghame, Findlay, and Browne, belongs to the estate of Priscilla Browne, late of Queen-Anne's county, deceased, and that I will support the claim of said estate as soon as I can obtain the proper vouchers.

1 w6 ROBERT BROWNE,
executor of Priscilla Browne.

A FEW copies of the LAWS of MARYLAND, passed last session of assembly, may be had at the Printing-office.

To be sold to the highest bidder, on Tuesday the 29th of January 1782, if fair, if not the next fair day, at the subscriber's plantation near Broad-creek, Prince-George's county, Maryland, for tobacco,

TWENTY-FOUR or five likely country born negroes, consisting of men, women, boys, and girls, among them a carpenter, a cook, and three valuable house servants. Also a flourishing stock of horses, black cattle, sheep, and hogs, some of the horses blooded. Also nine years of a lease of 600 acres of very fine land, well improved, lying within three miles of the town of Alexandria. Also sundry plantation utensils, consisting of a new ox-cart with three yoke of oxen, ploughs, axes, hoes, &c. Twelve months credit without interest will be given with bond and approved security. The sale to begin at 11 o'clock.

1 JOHN ADDISON.

To be sold to the highest bidder, on Tuesday the 29th of January, 1782, at the plantation of col. John Addison, near Broad-creek, Prince-George's county, Maryland, three miles from the town of Alexandria, for tobacco,

THE beautiful thorough bred horse ROEBUCK, he is a fine blood bay, 14 hands an inch and an half high, rising four years old, and was got by Benjamin Dulany, Esquire's, Othello, who was bred by William Fitzhugh, Esq. of Chatham, and got by Old Fearnought upon a thorough bred Morton's Traveller mare; Roebuck's dam was got by col. Tasker's Othello, who was got by Crab, his grand-dam by Morton's Traveller, his great grand-dam was col. Tasker's famous Selima, who was got by the Godolphin Arabian. Twelve months credit without interest will be given with bond and approved security. ts

1 OVERTON CARR.

TAKEN up in the bay between Luff-point and Sandy-point, a small two mast sailing boat, with two good sails, has been a barge, but railed upon and a deck put to it. The owner may have it again on proving property and paying reasonable charges, by applying to

10d 7/6 THOMAS PYPER,
block maker, Annapolis.

Office for confiscated estates, Annapolis, December 19, 1781.

AT Snow-hill, in Worcester county, on Wednesday the 30th of January next, will be sold for specie, or continental bills of credit emitted in this state to the actual value of specie, several valuable slaves, some stock and farming utensils, late the property of Dr. Henry Stevenson. Also an estate for the joint lives of Dr. Stevenson and Mrs. Stevenson, in the following tracts of land: Blackinhurst, containing 203 acres; part of Collick moore, 82 acres; Cade's Contrivance, 28 acres; Edward's Garden-spot, 83 acres; Timber grove, 99 acres; and an unimproved lot in Snow-hill. One-third of the sum bid to be paid on the first day of September 1782, the remainder in two equal yearly payments thereafter. Purchasers to give bond on interest, with two good securities.

2 By order, J. BAXTER, clk.

Annapolis, December 19, 1781.

STOLEN, last Sunday morning, a dark roan horse, about 14½ hands high, not branded, has two hind feet a little white, has a remarkable swelling between the knee and the ancle of the right fore foot, shod before, paces, trots and gallops; had on a saddle almost new and an old bridle. The person who is suspected of having stolen him goes by the name of William Johnson, says he came from the eastern shore, and probably may have taken the horse over the bay. He is a short well set man, has black eyes and hair, had on a country cloth coat, a pair of checqued trousers, a corded jacket, and a felt hat almost new. Whoever will bring the said horse to the subscriber, living near Bladensburg, Prince-George's county, or to Richard Tyers in Annapolis, shall receive a reward of two guineas, and the like sum on conviction of the thief, paid by

w3 2 JOHN HAMILTON.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Thomas Rutland, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are desired to make immediate payment. And all those having claims against the said estate are requested to make them known, to

3 JOSEPH HOWARD, jun. executor.

Calvert county, December 10, 1781.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Charles Grahame, late of Calvert county, deceased, are desired to come and discharge the same to the subscriber. And those who have claims against the said estate, are requested to bring them in to be adjusted and settled. 4w

3 ARIANA GRAHAME, administratrix.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the Post-Office, Church-Street.

SUPPLEMENT to the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1785.

To the PEOPLE of MARYLAND.

[illegible] commander in chief, in the [illegible] war, [illegible] on a late occasion, [illegible] recommended [illegible] to the [illegible] such vigorous exertions—By their aid only we can improve the [illegible] and secure a speedy conclusion of the [illegible] are accustomed with respect to the [illegible] the yield of the dupply bill, and [illegible] one product one third of the sum required for [illegible] ing, [illegible] fulfilling its engagements to those [illegible] really confident in it at a time, when [illegible] duty to—All this cannot be accomplished with less than 40,000 pounds—5 shillings in the hundred pounds will yield 31,000 pounds [illegible] shillings according to the prevailing opinion, brought upon us by [illegible] this sum is reduced to 25,000 pounds, [illegible] three-fourths equal to 18,750, on account of specific articles being [illegible] and one fifth, equal to 6,250, on account of [illegible] the charge of collection, [illegible] the amount of 37,500 pounds. Forty one of these [illegible] small to thought moderate—perhaps that sum will not [illegible] 40,000 pounds. With this [illegible] we are to make our [illegible] to support the civil [illegible] contract contracted, and to be prepared against every contingency.

It has been proposed to tax the flocks in trade, to sell [illegible] property, to open the land-offices, and to [illegible] specific articles in lieu of the said bills. [illegible] powers. If all these aids are inadequate, there are [illegible] ready to exhibit. We must then be [illegible] to provide for the [illegible] war, which is as much as the people are able to [illegible].

If a tax upon the flocks in trade, or if [illegible] duty on imports, what mighty sums the [illegible] to derive? I have [illegible] doubt, on trade as [illegible] a first [illegible] must [illegible] eyes of politicians [illegible] to be opened on the subject. It is [illegible] that [illegible] the purchaser, who chuses to buy, is to bear the burthen—the [illegible] chuses to sell. Historians, [illegible] ask the question, [illegible] during the [illegible] of the stamp duties upon [illegible] to be raised in this way it necessarily [illegible] from those persons; and the [illegible] will, [illegible] [illegible] purchase the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that a miller, who sells the produce of his farms, at the highest price, he can extort, and who, by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from a burthen, that falls only on the [illegible] and chuses it.

Upon what terms shall we dispose of [illegible] property? shall we sell for ready money, or [illegible] credit? At [illegible] for ready money; and the quantity of [illegible] for ready money, is so inconsiderable, it would not produce one half the [illegible] The [illegible] sense in [illegible] pounds, and there would be an inability for purchasers on this [illegible] such other [illegible] could not. I would, [illegible] people with a credit, and they [illegible] purchase on credit—the [illegible] would probably be [illegible] the value—But will this [illegible] the purposes of government?

There is perhaps no subject in which politicians differ more than the quantity of specie within the state—we are [illegible] of our [illegible] of forming a near conjecture, what was the [illegible] at the commencement of the war, what proportion of it remains, or how much has been since imported—I pretend to [illegible] to a little force of enquiry, and am convinced that the scarcity of specie will not permit us by taxes, [illegible] or otherwise, even at different periods, the sum of 7 [illegible] pounds, to be raised within the year.

If [illegible] considerable part of the demands of congress may be [illegible] in specific articles—that consideration, and the scarcity of money, must justify a species of tax, which, of all others, is the [illegible] the most pernicious, the most destructive, and the most unproductive, and of course the most oppressive. I would adhere to the plan of specific taxes, and even change the rate from 40 shillings to 7s. which, according to my mode of calculating, would produce the net sum of 244,800 pounds—other [illegible] would furnish something more than one half the [illegible]

[illegible] The people of Maryland, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Receiving the taxes in specie will remedy the evil complained of, and produce an universal and pressing demand, which cannot fail to appreciate it. I foresee two objections—

"Speculators will be benefited by the measure, but we ought to do every thing to disappoint, and punish them." Surely no think-ing man would forego a public benefit merely to punish a set of men without ever having any precise idea what or who they were. Again—"we shall get the whole of the emissions by taxes, and at the same time re-issue;" government will be disappointed of its supplies." Suppose we collect the bills, what is the amount in the hands of the people? 75,000 continental dollars, 140,000 of the black and 53,000 of the red emissions (aside from any others) which amount to 176,000 pounds, to be deducted from the sum of 325,000, which is the grand sum to be raised by the supply bills. It is impossible to get the whole by taxes—if it was, these must defeat the benefit of the property assigned for their redemption, of the money to arise from what is already sold, would be at the disposal of government—But I propose, that whatever is brought into the treasury, by any means, except by the taxes established for redemption, or by purchasers of the property assigned for the same purpose, shall re-issue as usual. The red bills, in opinion, at present, give them the preference, should be the first re-issued, and applied in the first place to discharge the interest of the public debt, allowing 6 per cent. Suppose the quantity of red money which has not yet been issued to be 243,000 pounds, there may then, in the course of the ensuing year, be 491,000 pounds paper in circulation, which, if it passes as specie, by no means exceeds the sum necessary for the purposes of commerce.

As a further method of creating a demand for the bills, and supplying the wants of government, I propose that loans be received of the paper at par, and that the interest arising upon them be regularly paid. In a short time every body would wish to lend, because it would be their interest to do it, rather than part with their bills at a depreciation. Under all these circumstances, it is indeed scarcely possible for them to continue in their depreciated state, or for government to want money, as long as it can pay the interest of the debt with all its revenue. There is no hazard of a loss to the state, by this scheme, because if it cannot re-issue the bills at par, I would not propose to re-issue them at all.

After all—to proceed upon sure ground, the government must procure specie to answer a pressing demand. I mean the recruiting our line. Let us do any thing, rather than recur to the shocking expedient of a draught. I propose to lay an additional tax of 2/6 in the hundred to be paid in specie, one half by the 1st of April, and the other by the 1st of August. If it is objected, that the people are unable, let it be remembered, that substitutes are to be procured with specie alone, and that the price far exceeds what a recruiting officer would declare a sufficient encouragement for recruits.

One more proposition—Let every thing relating to taxes be placed under the superintendance of one man—empower him to dismiss the officers under him, and to trade with part of the specific articles—let it be his duty to state the public debts, and to lay estimates before the general assembly.

I flatter myself, that I may have suggested some useful matter to those generous spirits, who are not too proud to accept hints from men of inferior station, or intelligence. I am indebted for the best of these remarks to a gentleman, who has scarcely attained the prime of manhood, and has been recently promoted to an office, where his virtues and his talents may render essential service to his country. Pleased with his assistance, and conscious of the rectitude of my politics, I care not, who pronounces my remarks to be rash, crude and inconsistent.

Annapolis, Dec. 22, 1781.

NEW-YORK, *November 30.*

Came up yesterday morning a brig from Newbury, for the Chesapeake, called the Alexander, captain Crawford, prize to his majesty's ship Amphion, with a trifling cargo.

Neither the public prints nor private letters received from Boston by yesterday's post, say any thing of the sailing of the Jamaica fleet in the British channel, as mentioned in our paper last Tuesday; so that it is generally imagined the gentleman, who was said to have brought that account from London, must have been mistaken.

Further letters say, that the [illegible] stopped on the arrival of the [illegible] packet from England by which letters were brought for the recall of Sir Henry Clinton from the chief command, and the appointment of [illegible] in his stead.

A vessel which arrived here on Thursday morning, in 30 days from Bordeaux, brings an account, that the garrison of Fort Philipsburg, having no hopes of relief, capitulated for themselves and the garrison in the Island of Martinico to the complete possession of his catholic majesty.

ANNAPOLIS, *December 27.*

By captain Martin, who arrived this day from St. Croix, in the brig Celia, in 22 days, we are favoured with the Royal Danish American Gazette, printed at St. Croix, Christiansted, Saturday, December 1, 1781, from which we have received the following paragraphs:

"Letters received here yesterday morning from St. Thomas say, that St. Eustatius was taken, and in possession of the French on Monday last.

"A vessel arrived here yesterday afternoon from Anguilla; the captain of said vessel confirms the above account, and further adds, that St. Martin's was taken possession of by the French on Tuesday last."

By the COMMITTEE of GRIEVANCES and COURTS of JUSTICE, November 27, 1781.

NOTICE is hereby given, that this committee will sit at the state house from 12 o'clock till 3 on each day during the present session of assembly.

By order,

GEO. RANKEN, clk.

STOP THE VILLAIN.

FOURTEEN GUINEAS REWARD.

Prince-George's county, Carrollsburg, October 31, 1781.

WAS taken by force, from a negro boy, the 11th of this month, on the road between Annapolis and the Governor's bridge, a bay horse, saddle and bridle, and rode off by a middle-sized man, dressed in a short brownish coloured jacket and overall trousers, and was seen [illegible] Patuxent about three miles above the bridge, supposed to be a deserter, as he was seen on the road the Saturday before going towards Annapolis, and said he was discharged from the hospital at Georgetown. The horse is about 14 hands high, well made, and about 10 years old, branded on (I believe the off) buttock T. H. shod before, the shoes far worn, he has a remarkable light trot, and a full intermediate gallop, frequently heaves his head when warmed in riding. The saddle about half worn, and has a much larger covered nail on the right side before than the other three, over a small rip in the flap from the flap. Whoever secures the villain, that he may be brought to justice and convicted thereof, and returns the horse and saddle to the subscriber, shall receive the above reward, or four guineas for the horse and saddle, and reasonable charges if brought home.

w 8 IGNATIUS FENWICK.

November 1, 1781.

WANTED AN OVERSEER.

A SINGLE MAN, of a sober industrious character, that can be well recommended, will meet with good encouragement, by applying to the subscriber; who has to let a convenient tenement in good repair about three miles from Annapolis.

6 WILLIAM THOMAS.

Queen-Anne's county, December 15, 1781.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Thomas Fitzhugh, Esq; late of Queen Anne's county, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and those who have legal demands against it to apply to

w3 JOHN SAYER BLAKE, executor.